

To: Joel Orosz
4300 Old Field Trail
Kalamazoo, MI 49008

November 29, 2000

From: Eric P. Newman

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Your interesting letter of November 24, 2000 has priority in my correspondence (1) because of your enthusiastic research and your extensive writing and (2) because I won't be able to sleep well until I give you my thinking on your inquiry. I therefore took 2 hours to find my letter to Fred Boyd dated September 27, 1951, a copy of which is enclosed. You must realize that with over 60 years of correspondence and data in ~~my~~ *our* numismatic files there are some matters under personal names, some under firm names, some on subject or topics, some under written articles, some under mixed pickles, some not filed, etc. Much of it is before photocopies or computers. It is not easy to find what I seek or to remember everything I did or didn't do. *or know.*

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Fred Boyd and I were very good friends and he encouraged my research so extensively I was delighted to do anything he wanted. He had loads of coins and I had a *nice* pile myself. He wanted some varieties of my Massachusetts silver and I sent them to him. He asked me if I wanted a silver center cent. I visited him in July 1951 and he handed me 2 dimes and 2 silver center cents and said take one and give back the rest. I realized he was testing me so I took all of them when I realized at least one was an electro and said I would return three as he wished. All were fake except one silver center cent which was lovely. He knew that. There were a few other items in the exchange. *me*

Now you want to know where did Fred obtain that silver center cent. You indicate the University of Pennsylvania deaccessioned the Miller and Brock collection in 1952 and Mehl advertised ~~it~~ for sale in 1953. So the record appears. *me*

You say that the Morris-Miller collection had a silver center cent and you can prove it. You may do so as I am most interested.

I believe you are misinterpreting the "1792 Large Pattern Cent" expression used in 1901. This has to be a Birch cent as the silver center cent would be described as small if its size were mentioned.

holding Mehl apparently only purchased what was offered to him of the immense collection and customarily sold the stuff as fast as he could. I wish I could ask B.G. Johnson but he died beforehand.

I will work on the matter further but wanted to let you know the above first. Keep me informed about my piece as I do not know its earlier history and never really was fascinated by pedigrees when I obtained coins long ago because Johnson told me pedigrees were ~~mostly~~ concocted. You and others are now straightening out *these matters.*

much of that material

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